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WHOLE No.
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Annual Meeting

Twentieth Annual
Meeting Bee-Keep-
ers' Asso., Ontario.

HELD AT
TORONTO,
DEC., 1899. . .

as they had not settled down to clustering.

Mr. Post: If bees have a rim of sawdust, as represented in the question even zero weather will not do them any harm. I have about 200 colonies myself now in the same condition; I do not feel at all uneasy about them, although as soon as the weather changes a little warmer I will take them in. The way my stands are built they will never stick.

Mr. Darling (asked by Mr. McEvoy to speak): My bees are not in the cellar yet, they are not packed with saw-dust, but I can take them up quietly by putting them on a pair of sloops or bobs, and draw them when there is a little snow or on the bare ground, and when I get them to the house they scarcely know that they have been moved, sometimes they are all quiet when we get them into the cellar, and sometimes they stir about. Mr. Hall advocates loose bottom boards. I raise up those that are loose and loosen those that are not loose, propping the front of the hive off the bottom board about an inch; I am not bothered with moisture. My bees last year were not put in until somewhere about Christmas. My reason for being so late was on account of sickness. However, I found my bees last spring came out drier and better on the average than they have for some years.

Mr. McEvoy: Let us hear from men who winter on the summe

Q. Bees intended to be wintered in the cellar which are on their summer stands at present (Dec. 6th) with a rim of three inches filled with sawdust on top, would it be better to take them into the cellar right away or leave them until they get another winter?

Mr. Hall: My answer to that is to take them in to-morrow if it is not freezing, and if it is freezing let them stay until they are thawed out, or pour some hot water from the tea kettle around the stands, so that the moving may be done without cracking. Never mind a fly, they have eaten nothing in the last few weeks to require it. If they are down loosen them somehow with as little jarring as possible. Do not put bees in when they are flying; the clusters are all loose; you may get a few stings, it is true, but not many. We do not break a cluster when putting them in; the cluster is only broken. They form a cluster and they go into the cellar.

Dickson: I believe in putting them in early. Mine have been in the cellar a month now, and, just as Mr. Post says, there were lots to fly out,

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